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M.G.J.  
2/28/02

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

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Typed or Printed Name	Margaret Pierce	Express Mail No.	EL 563 388 228 US
Signature	<i>M. Pierce</i>	Date	December 29, 2000

<b>PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT</b>  Address to: Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231	Attorney Docket	IRVN-007CON2
	First Named Inventor	Gatanaga et al.
	Application Number	Unassigned
	Filing Date	Herewith (December 29, 2000)
	Group Art Unit	Unassigned
	Examiner Name	Unassigned
Title: "FACTORS AFFECTING TUMOR NECROSIS FACTOR RECEPTOR RELEASING ENZYME ACTIVITY"		

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification

On page 1, line 4, after the first instance of the word "application", insert -is a continuation of  
US Application Serial No. 09/712,813, filed November 13, 2000 and --.

On page 1, line 4, after "of", insert -International Application No. PCT/US99/10793, filed May  
14, 1999 and --.

On page 1, line 6, delete "application is" and insert therefore --applications are--.

On page 1, line 6, delete "its" and insert therefore --their--.

In the Claims:

Cancel claims 1-32 without prejudice.

Please add the following new claims:

33. A method of screening substances for an ability to affect TRRE activity, comprising:

a) incubating TNF receptor or cells expressing TNF receptor with a polypeptide in the presence  
of the substance;